

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **2 February 2006**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-20. Claim 9 was objected to because of informalities. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-3, 8-12, and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Manasse (USPN 5,345,578, hereinafter "Manasse"). Claims 4-7 and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Manasse in view of Rand (USPub 2003/0126372, hereinafter "Rand").

Objections to the claims

Claim 9 was objected to because of informalities.

Applicant has amended claim 9 to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 7 was rejected for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claim 7 to correct the antecedent basis. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 20 were rejected as being anticipated by Manasse. Applicant respectfully points out that Manasse teaches performing **an update or invalidate** if data is present elsewhere along one of the buses (see Manasse FIG. 3, and col. 11, line 67 to col. 12, line 4).

In contrast, the present invention **switches protocol** from a write-invalidate protocol to a write-broadcast protocol based upon the dynamic behavior

of the program execution (see FIGs. 3A and 3B, and paragraphs [0031]-[0047] of the instant application). This is beneficial because it allows the system to switch to the write-broadcast protocol in situations where the write-invalidate protocol causes ping-ponging of the cache line between two or more caches. Note that the system of Manasse, even though it allows either protocol, does not switch protocols based upon the dynamic behavior of the program execution. There is nothing within Manasse, either explicit or implicit, which suggests switching protocols from a write-invalidate protocol to a write-broadcast protocol based upon the dynamic behavior of the program execution


Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 20 to clarify that the present invention switches protocol from a write-invalidate protocol to a write-broadcast protocol based upon the dynamic behavior of the program execution. These amendments find support in FIGs. 3A and 3B, and in paragraphs [0031]-[0047] of the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 20 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-9, which depend upon claim 1, and claims 11-18, which depend upon claim 10, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Edward J. Grundler
Registration No. 47,615

Date: 28 March 2006

Edward J. Grundler
PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP
2820 Fifth Street
Davis, CA 95616-7759
Tel: (530) 759-1663
FAX: (530) 759-1665
Email: edward@parklegal.com